



# City of Riverside Fire Department Press Release



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **It's Fire Prevention Week. Protect your Family from Fire!**

*The City of Riverside Fire Department Encourages Residents to Keep their Homes Safe  
During Fire Prevention Week, October 9-15, 2011*

October 7, 2011 -- What's the best way to protect your family from fire? Be ahead of the game, of course. With more than 360,000 home fires reported in the United States in 2009, your best defense is a good offense. National Fire Prevention Week is October 9-15, 2011 and this year's theme is "It's Fire Prevention Week, Protect your Family from Fire!"

The campaign focuses on preventing the leading causes of home fires -- cooking, heating and electrical equipment, as well as candles and smoking materials. Additionally, it urges people to protect their homes and families with life-saving technology and planning.

In 2009, 2,565 people died in home fires. Nearly all of these deaths could have been prevented by taking a few simple precautions like having working smoke alarms and a home fire escape plan, keeping things that can burn away from the stove and always turning off space heaters before going to bed.

In recognition of Fire Prevention Week the City of Riverside Fire Department will be hosting a Fire Station Open House on Saturday, October 15, 2011 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm at the following stations:

- Downtown Fire Station 1 at 3420 Mission Inn Avenue
- Magnolia Fire Station 3 at 6395 Riverside Avenue
- Arlington Fire Station 2 at 9450 Andrew Street

The City of Riverside Fire Department's Fire Safety Trailer will be located at the Arlington Fire Station 2 during their open house. This is a great opportunity for your children to learn about fire safety in the home with interactive demonstrations. Please join us at our Fire Station Open House to celebrate National Fire Prevention Week.

The City of Riverside Fire Department offers the following tips for protecting your home and family from fire:

- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- Have a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.

- Replace or repair damaged or loose electrical cords.
- If you smoke, smoke outside.
- Use deep, wide ashtrays on a sturdy table.
- Blow out all candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Avoid the use of candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep.

The following tips will help keep your family safe if there is a fire in your home:

- Install smoke alarms inside each bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home.
- Interconnect all smoke alarms in the home so when one sounds, they all sound.
- Test smoke alarms at least monthly and replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old (whether or not they respond to a test), or replace sooner if they do not respond when tested.
- Make sure everyone in your home knows how to respond if the smoke alarm sounds.
- Pull everyone in your household together and make a plan. Walk through your home and inspect all possible ways out. Households with children should consider drawing a floor plan of your home, marking two ways out of each room, including windows and doors.

Please join us at our Fire Station Open House to celebrate National Fire Prevention Week.

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